

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 25 and 26.

Amend claims 1, 10, 18, and 21 as shown below in the entire set of pending claims. Underlines indicate insertions, and ~~strikeouts~~ or double brackets [[]] indicate deletions.

1 1. (Currently amended) A consumable order assistance system
2 for computer peripheral devices, comprising:
3 a personal computer having a web browser, ~~[[and]]~~ a messaging
4 system, and a consumable order assistance computer program;
5 at least one computer peripheral device having an embedded web
6 server and a messaging system provided ~~[[in]]~~ by the embedded web server; and
7 a communication link signal coupling the personal computer with a
8 seller of a consumable for the computer peripheral device via the web browser;
9 and
10 [[a)] wherein the consumable order assistance computer program is
11 ~~provided on the personal computer and~~ configured to a) receive a notification
12 from the computer peripheral device ~~via the messaging system~~ of a need to
13 order a consumable via the messaging system of the personal computer and the
14 messaging system of the at least one computer peripheral device, b) alert a user
15 of the personal computer of the notification, and c) provide an order location to
16 the user for the consumable; and
17 wherein the consumable order assistance system is configured for
18 multiple unique functionality levels to provide consumable order assistance when
19 ordering the consumable, the multiple unique functionality levels being
20 configured to be at a level that is required by a customer, and wherein the
21 embedded web server is configured to push information from the computer
22 peripheral device to the personal computer.

1 2. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable
2 order assistance computer program is further configured to collect a series of

3 notifications and summarize the series of notifications for one or more computer
4 peripheral devices.

1 3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable
2 order assistance computer program consolidates a plurality of notifications from
3 the at least one computer peripheral device.

1 4. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable
2 order assistance computer program is further configured to request identification
3 from a user to verify authorization of the user to submit an order.

1 5. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable
2 order assistance computer program is further configured to request at least one
3 level of authorization from a user before sending an order via the communication
4 link to a reseller of the consumable.

1 6. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable
2 order assistance computer program is further configured to request at least one
3 level of authorization from a user before sending an order via the communication
4 link to a reseller of the consumable.

1 7. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the consumable
2 order assistance computer program is further configured to prompt a customer
3 user for authorization information.

1 8. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the
2 communication link comprises an electronic communication link that enables the
3 consumable order assistance computer program to submit an e-mail order.

1 9. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the
2 communication link comprises an electronic communication link that enables the
3 consumable order assistance computer program to submit a facsimile order.

10. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented system which implements a program in which consumable components of computer peripheral devices are replenished, the system comprising:

a notification system that alerts a user of a personal computer that they need to order a consumable for a computer peripheral device associated with the personal computer, the computer peripheral device having an embedded web server, and the notification system being provided in the embedded web server for notifying a user at the personal computer;

a facilitation system that provides a communication link with a reseller of the consumable via the personal computer; and

at least one from a list of a) a consolidation system for consolidating a plurality of orders, b) an authorization system for confirming that a user is authorized to place an order for the consumable, and c) an order assistance system that places an order for the consumable;

wherein the computer-implemented system is configured to establish multiple unique functionality levels at the personal computer to provide consumable order assistance when ordering the consumable from the personal computer, the multiple unique functionality levels being configured to be at a level that is required by a customer.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the notification system identifies for the user a part number for a consumable that needs to be ordered for the computer peripheral device.

12. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the notification system comprises a messaging system within an embedded web server of a computer peripheral device and a messaging system within a personal computer.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the personal computer further comprises a browser, and the messaging system comprises an e-mail application, wherein the computer peripheral device sends an e-mail notification to the personal computer to alert a user to a need to order a consumable.

1 14. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein the e-mail
2 notification identifies the consumable by a part number.

1 15. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the system
2 comprises the consolidation system configured to aggregate a plurality of
3 notifications for one or more computer peripheral devices.

1 16. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the system
2 comprises the authorization system configured to request authorization from a
3 user prior to automatically submitting an order for the consumable to a reseller
4 of the consumable.

1 17. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the system
2 comprises the order assistance system configured to automatically submit an
3 order for the consumable in response to receiving a notification that a
4 consumable needs to be ordered.

1 18. (Currently amended) A method of providing order
2 assistance, comprising:
3 providing a computer peripheral device, a personal computer having
4 a communication link with a reseller of a consumable, and a messaging system
5 extending between the computer peripheral device and the personal computer;
6 detecting a need to replenish a consumable at the computer
7 peripheral device;
8 notifying a user at the personal computer of the need to replenish
9 the consumable by communicating the need from the computer peripheral device
10 to the personal computer;
11 providing an order address location to a user at the personal
12 computer for a reseller that sells the consumable; and
13 placing an order for the consumable with the reseller using the
14 personal computer to communicate with the reseller;

15 configuring the computer peripheral device and the personal
 16 computer to operate in at least one of multiple unique functionality levels to
 17 provide consumable order assistance when ordering the consumable, the
 18 multiple unique functionality levels being configured to be at a level that is
 19 desired by a customer.

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein placing the order
 2 comprises automatically placing the order for the consumable in response to
 3 notifying the user.

1 20. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein, prior to placing
 2 an order, querying a user to authorize placing the order with an identified
 3 reseller.

1 21. (Currently amended) A consumable order assistance system
 2 for computer peripheral devices, comprising:

3 a personal computer having a web browser and a messaging
 4 system;

5 at least one computer peripheral device having an embedded web
 6 server and a messaging system each configured to communicate on a one-to-
 7 one relation bi-directionally with the personal computer;

8 a bi-directional communication link signal coupling the personal
 9 computer with a seller of a consumable for the computer peripheral device via
 10 the web browser, the bi-directional communication link configured to enable a
 11 user to interact with the computer peripheral device to obtain information on a
 12 consumable for one computer peripheral device including at least one of a)
 13 consumable levels, b) media levels and types, c) warnings, d) notifications,
 14 e) job assurance, and d) printer capabilities;

15 a consumable order assistance computer program provided on the
 16 personal computer and configured to a) receive a notification from the computer
 17 peripheral device via the messaging system of a need to order a consumable,
 18 b) alert a user of the personal computer of the notification, and c) provide an
 19 order location to the user for the consumable; and

20 a server communicating with one of the personal computer and the
21 at least one computer peripheral device and including a centralized management
22 database having information pulled from the Internet and comprising at least one
23 of consumable part numbers, alternative consumable part numbers, and
24 information for selecting a reseller;

25 wherein the consumable order assistance system is configured for
26 multiple unique functionality levels to provide consumable order assistance when
27 ordering the consumable, the multiple unique functionality levels being
28 configured to be at a level that is required by a customer, and wherein the
29 embedded web server is configured to push information from the computer
30 peripheral device to the personal computer.

1 22. (Previously presented) The consumable order assistance
2 system of claim 21 wherein at least one of the server and the at least one
3 computer peripheral device proactively generates a warning to a user at the
4 personal computer comprising information on an upcoming issue regarding
5 maintenance and operation of a selected computer peripheral device.

1 23. (Previously presented) The consumable order assistance
2 system of claim 21 wherein the personal computer includes an application
3 interface comprising an extended data interface.

1 24. (Previously presented) The consumable order assistance
2 system of claim 21 wherein the centralized management database is configured
3 for interaction with a maintainer at the personal computer to enable
4 determination of when to replace a consumable as well as at least one of what
5 consumable to replace, alternative parts for the associated peripheral device,
6 issue urgency, proactive warning of one or more next issues, computer
7 peripheral device location, owner/contact information, computer peripheral
8 device model information, and impending maintenance notification.

1 25-26. (Cancelled)